

Action against petrol pumps involved in adulteration

†108. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ. will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the petrol pumps situated in several parts of the country are involved in adulteration;

(b) if so, the number of petrol pumps in Delhi and other parts of the country which have been found involved in adulteration during the last six months;

(c) whether Government have taken any action against them, so far; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) to (d) The Government have received complaints regarding adulteration of automobile fuels. Oil Marketing Companies carry out regular/surprise checks of retail outlets, to prevent various malpractices including adulteration. In addition, special drives are launched by the oil companies both on their own and also under direction of Government from time to time to check malpractices. To prevent adulteration various steps like blue dyeing of kerosene (Public Distribution System), furfural doping, filter paper test, stock reconciliation, checking of retail outlets by mobile laboratories, etc are taken by oil companies.

The number of cases of adulteration reported in country including Delhi are 148. Action has been taken by the Oil Marketing Companies in accordance with the dealership agreements.

Rights to oil companies to prevent adulteration

†109. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in view of massive adulteration in petroleum products, Government have given many rights to the oil companies to check the same;

(b) if so, since when, and the details in this regard; and

(c) if not, in what manner Government propose to check the adulteration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) to (c) To check the

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adulteration and malpractices, the oil marketing companies carry out regular/surprise checks of retail outlets, to control various malpractices including adulteration. In addition, special drives are launched by the oil companies both on their own and also under direction of Government from time to time to check malpractices. To prevent adulteration various steps like blue dyeing of kerosene (PDS), furfural doping, filter paper test, stock reconciliation, checking of retail outlets by mobile laboratories, etc. are taken by oil companies.

Action is taken by the oil marketing companies under the dealership agreement depending upon the gravity of the case.

Further to check the adulteration of automobile fuels viz. like Motor Spirit (MS), High Speed Diesel (HSD) by adulterants like Naptha, Solvent, Raffinate and Slop, the Government has promulgated the solvent, Raffinate and Slop (Acquisition, Sale, Storage and Prevention of use in Automobiles) Order, 2000 and the Naptha (Acquisition, Sale, Storage and Prevention of use in Automobiles) Order, 2000 under the provisions of the essential Commodities Act, 1955.

Transfer of petrol pump and gas dealership within the family

110. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the normal period required to transfer petrol pump or gas dealership within the family or otherwise; and
- (b) the number of cases pending and since when, company-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E.PONNUSWAMY): (a) According to the Government policy, reconstitution of dealerships/ distributorships is allowed subject to certain conditions. No period is specified for reconstitution. Each case is considered on merit and approved by the competent authority if the prescribed conditions are fulfilled.